

night orders were issued that the armistice be signed.

It appears that the Government considered one of the allied conditions as capable of being construed to mean that the Allies, if the armistice is accepted, might occupy all Germany, and the Cabinet is declared to have felt that ultimately there would be such an occupation and that it might be as well to bring things to a crisis now rather than sign an agreement which it considered was degrading in its terms.

These terms, it is held, not only contained no guarantee that there would not be an occupation of all Germany, but indicated, in the estimation of the Cabinet, that the armistice was only a matter of time until upon one pretext or another the allied troops would advance.

Vote to Reject Terms.

The Cabinet originally went into session on Saturday on receipt of a belated copy of Marshal Foch's ultimatum which Mathias Erberger, head of the German armistice commission, had forwarded and which had been mysteriously delayed. The Ministers were in conference until 2 o'clock on Sunday morning, when they took a vote on the terms. The morning they took a final vote, which was in favor of a declaration to sign the terms.

It was felt, however, it is explained, that the German people had a right to a voice in the decision, and since there were still several hours before an answer had to be filed the party leaders were summoned to a meeting at the Reichstag. It was at this meeting that the decision resulted in a reversal of the decision before the day was over, and although the Cabinet had a perfect legal right to do so, the decision was a plain violation of the will of the people's representatives.

On Sunday afternoon, between 3 and 4 o'clock, the note to accompany the act of signing the armistice was drawn up and approved. This note, with the orders for the signing, was telephoned to Berlin, where the mechanical apparatus for forwarding it was located. The note was repeated over the telephone from Berlin for verification, reading being finished at 4:30 o'clock. The note was received in Germany a half hour later and Herr Erberger, who is said to have been vastly surprised and upset, communicated it to Marshal Foch.

Terms Held Dishonorable.

Of the Government members, Philipp Scheidemann and Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, together with Herr Erberger of the armistice commission, personally refused to sign the armistice, declaring it "dishonorable to Germany." The party leaders, however, when they were hurriedly called into conference at the Reichstag, and who attended with the exception of Herr Erberger, the Independent-Socialist faction, overruled the Cabinet.

The Germans, as their sentiment is reflected here, consider this the most humiliating surrender they have made to the Entente.

Two points in particular were objected to by the Government. It offered no guarantee that the armistice would be permanent, and it offered no guarantee that the armistice would be permanent, and it offered no guarantee that the armistice would be permanent.

That Herr Erberger was, as is stated, able to obtain the evacuation of Silesia from the territory the Poles were to administer is regarded as a triumph for him. This, however, was more offset by the other highly objectionable feature of the new terms, which apparently was a demand for the early decision of the Cabinet not to sign the armistice. This was the provision that made the armistice only an interim measure, and that the armistice was to be broken on three days notice and which stipulated that if the conditions previously unfilled are not carried out the armistice was to be broken on three days notice and which stipulated that if the conditions previously unfilled are not carried out the armistice was to be broken on three days notice.

Foiled Invasion.

It was this condition that the Government considered to mean that in case the Entente wished to do so or found it necessary allied troops might occupy all or part of the former Germany.

Early speeches which had been set down for this afternoon suffered a rude interruption by the outcome of the new armistice negotiations. The general outlines of the terms of the armistice were early today, and it was no surprise when President Fehrenbach announced that the speeches and arguments would be deferred, so that Herr Erberger might give a personal explanation of what happened between his departure for Treves last week and his unexpected quick return to-day.

Explains Terms in Detail.

He then referred to the unfortunate, but high fatal delay in the arrival of the terms at Weimar, and went into details on Marshal Foch's ultimatum, which, he said, was the assured was framed with the unqualified approval of President Wilson.

Herr Erberger told of his efforts to obtain modifications. But Marshal Foch had been sternly insistent on the acceptance of the terms. He touched only briefly but clearly on his successful protests against Polish incorporation of Silesia and his unsuccessful efforts to save Birkenhead, Bentschen and other German towns. He emphasized that the Allies would take over the responsibility of keeping the German people from being guaranteed for the safety of the German people on the Polish side.

"Achieved No Results."

The Minister said the difficulties had been greater because the negotiations had become sharper and more acute recently, and a long discussion demonstrated that nothing more would be changed. The Minister assured the Assembly: "I have confidence that Marshal Foch's given word will be kept."

Herr Erberger said he had achieved almost no results in his efforts to have German prisoners released beyond a promise by France and England to send back 2,000 badly wounded men each. He then read the German ultimatum which he presented to Marshal Foch as the armistice terms were signed. He had had a sad mission with few happy results.

"We do not want a new war and cannot conduct one. The world will condemn the Entente for its severity."

President Fehrenbach then announced that the Ministers and delegates intended to withhold their declarations until Wednesday, and suggested that the House adjourn immediately in view of the new situation.

The House accepted a proposal to consider nothing tomorrow but an interpellation by Dr. Heinke with reference to the armistice terms.

GERMANS HELPLESS UNDER FINAL TERMS

Vast Army Will Be Wrecked by Permanent Armistice Conditions.

FLEET ALSO IS DOOMED

Peace Strength of Navy Will Be Determined by Allied Experts.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun from the London Times Service.

PARIS, Feb. 18.—In the armistice terms Germany will be called upon to demolish all those troops not considered necessary to her normal peace existence and hand over to the Allies all material above requirements limited to an army of between twenty-five and thirty-five divisions.

There is also a vigorous control of her war plants and the possibilities of war material production. She will also in all probability be called upon to destroy all machinery of a purely warlike nature. Some form of occupation of Essen and the naval arsenal may be deemed advisable.

The naval terms of the armistice will be laid down in accordance with the same general ideas. First of all, of course, Germany will have to hand over at once those ships specified in the previous armistice which have not yet been delivered.

To Fix Naval Strength.

Then the Allies will indirectly determine the peace strength of the German navy by converting, in new conditions, the instrument of the German fleet at Scapa Flow and elsewhere into surrender of all the vessels concerned.

No decision has yet been taken on this point, but it will clearly be useless under the League of Nations to distribute Germany's ships among the Allies. It is almost certain the German fleet will be broken up and sold as scrap iron.

PARIS, Feb. 18.—When the German came to sign the terms of the armistice, they handed to Marshal Foch a twenty-three page memorandum in which it was stated that the German Government had been unable to meet her obligations.

He also gave the Marshal a memorandum from Philipp Scheidemann, the new German Chancellor, complaining of the increasingly hard terms forced upon Germany and protesting against the Germans being forced to evacuate Poland, delivering German fortresses to the Poles and abandoning the German people there.

Allies Call Poles Off.

A demand was made that the Allies require the Poles to cease their attacks against the Germans.

This last request, a telegram having been sent to Warsaw from Paris last night.

The special commission of the Supreme Council, charged with drafting the armistice, has already been working on a telegram having been sent to Warsaw from Paris last night.

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FOCH WILL PRESENT PLAN IN TWO WEEKS

Permanent Terms to Supplant Short Truce.

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, Feb. 18.—Marshal Foch will present the permanent armistice plan within a fortnight, taking the place of the short term armistice announced yesterday.

These permanent terms will be the preliminary steps toward peace and will be incorporated into a peace treaty to follow. This will bring a peace treaty measurably within sight.

The present prospect is the first draft of five or six essential provisions, which will be presented to the President on March 15, so that early action can be secured by the full conference and the powers represented, would thus be constituted by late spring and give prospect of the conclusion of a peace treaty by the end of the summer.

But the plan is necessarily elastic, owing to the range of subjects, unforeseen circumstances and enemy opposition, yet it is the plan those in chief command here to see carried out as a result of the systematic procedure now being organized.

What appears to be the main difficulty is territorial boundaries, but practically all these issues are interrelated and interpose no obstacle to peace with the enemy.

The meantime the Supreme War Council is rapidly bringing together a permanent armistice, which will last until peace is concluded. This is being framed by the military, naval and economic experts, and then will finally be passed on by the Supreme War Council before Marshal Foch presents it, which probably will be within the next week.

The principal feature in German disarmament down to the requirements of an international police not exceeding twenty-five divisions of about ten or twelve thousand men each, or a total force of approximately 250,000 men. Other restrictions will cover production of arms, munitions and all kinds of war material, and the complete disappearance of the enemy's submarine equipment.

The naval terms, while jointly agreed to by the Allies, have not yet been approved by the War Council. It is understood the agreement concerning the dismantling of the fortifications of Heligoland and of the Kiel Canal will have some reservations from American quarters so as not to establish precedent for the non-fortification of canals and waterways wholly within American national boundaries, such as the Gulf of Mexico and the Panama Canal.

The dismantling of Heligoland reservations will be made so that no precedent is established that will be applicable to this waterway. The dismantling of Heligoland reservations will be made so that no precedent is established that will be applicable to this waterway.

The House accepted a proposal to consider nothing tomorrow but an interpellation by Dr. Heinke with reference to the armistice terms.

WILSON STILL RESTS AS SHIP SPEEDS ON

Sun Shines On Transport as It Nears the Azores.

By the Associated Press.

ON BOARD THE U. S. S. GEORGE WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (delayed).—President Wilson's ship is 700 miles on its homeward journey and is running fast down toward the Azores, which probably will be passed to-morrow.

Mr. Wilson continues the enforced rest which has been prescribed by Rear Admiral Cary T. Grayson, his physician, and has taken little exercise so far on the trip. After a night of smart winds and choppy seas the ship ran into warmer and quieter waters today and made good time, with balmy weather, over the southern route. Members of the Presidential party and the troops on board the George Washington are feeling overcast and exercised on the deck in the brilliant sunshine to-day.

The returning troops are very happy at the prospect of sunshine and warm weather after their sojourn on the musty flats of Brest.

President Wilson probably will do some work the latter part of his voyage and probably will decide on the spot whether to accept the armistice terms. Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau resigned as a protest against the refusal of the Cabinet to follow his advice as responsible Foreign Minister to decline to sign the new terms. (Later reports say he has withdrawn his resignation.)

BOSTON PLANS FOR WELCOMING WILSON

Mayor Peters Favors Parade Before Speech Is Made.

BOSTON, Feb. 18.—Mayor Andrew J. Peters proceeded to-day with his plans for the reception of President Wilson and Mrs. Wilson on the assumption that the steamship George Washington on which they are returning from France would arrive early next Monday. He has for some time been in conference with Joseph P. Tumulty, the President's secretary, who is at Atlantic City, during which the tentative programme as outlined by Mayor and Gov. Coolidge was discussed. No new feature, Mayor Peters said, would be added to the programme without the approval of Mr. Tumulty.

Although the building in which President Wilson will make his address has not been definitely decided upon, it was believed to-day that Mechanics Hall would be selected.

Although the Mayor favors a parade from the pier in order that the greatest possible number of persons may have an opportunity to see the President, plans are being made to hold a reception at the city hall, because of the absence from the city of Major-General Clarence R. Edwards, commander of the Northeastern Department.

PRUSSIAN BLUFF IS FAST DISAPPEARING

Continued from First Page.

When he asserted in an interview that he tried to persuade the General Staff after the battle of the Marne in 1914 that it was useless to continue the war, but a former German peace officer, said the Crown Prince was not as much of a jingo as he was represented to be; only a foolish talker who liked to pose as a great warrior.

Von Hindenburg is regarded as the great unknown and few will discuss him. He is popular with the discharged soldiers, but a former German peace officer, said the Crown Prince was not as much of a jingo as he was represented to be; only a foolish talker who liked to pose as a great warrior.

Fear of Bolshevism Persists.

But the party leaders put a different complexion on the matter. Their discussion with the Cabinet lasted a long time. One point which cropped up was the question whether Germany was to recover its energies. If he succeeds he will stand ready to intervene if he sees an opening.

Count von Bernstorff, the former Ambassador at Washington, is little seen by his coming and going are regarded as his most intimate friend, who speaks excellent English, frequents the places where Americans are to be found, and is a former German peace officer, said the Crown Prince was not as much of a jingo as he was represented to be; only a foolish talker who liked to pose as a great warrior.

Anxious About U. S. Sentiment.

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The atmosphere of Berlin still is laden with intrigue, which is not so much the work of the Government and the Spartacists as a widespread propaganda of an endeavor to prevent at any cost the people from getting the idea that the armistice is being accepted.

Poincare Gives Testimony.

PARIS, Feb. 18.—President Poincare gave testimony yesterday in the case of Senator Charles Humbert, former President of the Journal, who has been under examination for some time in connection with charges growing out of the Bolo Fauch and other treason cases. The President's testimony was taken by Paul Andre, President of the Appeal Court, who went to the Palace of the Elysee for the purpose.

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CABINET HESITATED TO SIGN ARMISTICE

German Leaders Hesitated at First, but Reluctantly Gave Their Assent.

DREAD OF BOLSHEVISM

Also Considered Possibility of French Troops Refusing to Occupy Towns.

By CHARLES TOWER.

SPECIAL CABLE DESPATCH TO THE SUN FROM THE LONDON TIMES SERVICE.

WEIMAR, Feb. 18.—The National Assembly adjourned as a token of mourning after hearing of the fresh armistice terms. Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau resigned as a protest against the refusal of the Cabinet to follow his advice as responsible Foreign Minister to decline to sign the new terms. (Later reports say he has withdrawn his resignation.)

When the new armistice terms reached Weimar later today evening the Cabinet immediately held a sitting, in which the utmost indignation was expressed, especially at the clauses regarding territorial restrictions of the German army, which would have meant virtual abandonment of Silesia, and, secondly, the final clause, which, for the remainder of the armistice, is held to make Marshal Foch master of Germany.

Von Brockdorff-Rantzau urged that Herr Erberger, head of the German armistice commission, should be instructed to refuse to sign the armistice. On Sunday morning it was decided to summon the party leaders. At noon Chancellor Scheidemann's Cabinet was dissolved. No new feature, Mayor Peters said, would be added to the programme without the approval of Mr. Tumulty.

Although the building in which President Wilson will make his address has not been definitely decided upon, it was believed to-day that Mechanics Hall would be selected.

Although the Mayor favors a parade from the pier in order that the greatest possible number of persons may have an opportunity to see the President, plans are being made to hold a reception at the city hall, because of the absence from the city of Major-General Clarence R. Edwards, commander of the Northeastern Department.

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BRITISH LABORITE PREDICTS DISASTER

McDonald, Back From Bern, Fears Bolshevism.

Special Wireless Despatch to The Sun.

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PARIS, Feb. 18.—According to Ramsey MacDonald, the British Radical Laborite, who has just returned to London from the abortive mission at Bern, where he hobnobbed with the German delegates, a speedy peace based upon the American formula is the only antidote to the political Bolshevism, which he says is eating its way into the European organism, destroying Russia, infecting Germany and slowly contaminating Great Britain and France.

McDonald was accompanied by Noel Saxon, pacifist member of Parliament, and talked with several correspondents at the headquarters of the American delegation. He described central Europe as a great plague spot from which the disease of Bolshevism was spreading over the whole of Europe and summed up the result of the meeting at Bern in the words, "Let us get a peace first."

After that, he asserted, it will be comparatively easy to get the necessary security against any countries. Contact with the German delegates he met at Bern persuaded him that the extensions of the armistice had disastrous effects in causing new friction and widening the breach between the combatants. Asked to indicate the attitude of the Bern meeting toward the American refusal to participate in the European armistice, he said: "The general opinion was pretty contemptuous; Gompers is an ass."

SAYS BRITISH LABOR CRIPPLES INDUSTRY

Yarrow Explains Plan to Transfer Shipyards.

Special Wireless Despatch to The Sun.

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LONDON, Feb. 18.—Sir Alfred Yarrow, Great Britain's greatest shipbuilder, who has announced his intention of transferring his shipyards to Vancouver, declared in an interview in The Evening Standard to-day that the Pacific Coast has a great future and the Clyde has a great future.

He issued a grave warning to British industry, which he declared is being seriously crippled by the refusal of the Government to accept the new conditions under the mistaken idea that if they go slower they are providing work for their fellows. Regarding the competition of America, he said: "America is going to be the foremost shipbuilding country in the world; it is a fact. I am certain. She is under some disadvantages at the start but she is continuing to expand and the new conditions with the new yards established in the United States and Japan. It will require just two and a half years to get from the Clyde to the Pacific Coast, and also enough more to provide all the sea-carrying for the world."

"With the tremendous output in America, combined with the cheap labor of Japan, British shipbuilders, with high wages and lowered output, are going to have a bad time. We propose to let our building on the Clyde cease while we transfer to the Pacific Coast, not because we want to but because we must advance with the times and conform to the new conditions."

Although the proposals which the Government intends to place before the conference are not known yet, it is clear that they must be some general settlement of the hours of labor, such as the promise of a sweeping eight-hour act, and also some provision against surplus labor, and a constructive policy on the nationalization of railways and mines.

Opinion is skeptical about the utility of the conference, but all hope that it will mean the solution of the difficulty. There is increasing evidence that the British labor movement is being bound by the Commission on International Labor Legislation yesterday in adopting plans for the meeting of the proposed annual international labor conference. The plan adopted was that presented by the British delegates, with an amendment proposed by the Belgian delegation, read by Sir Gompers, head of the American Federation of Labor, presided over the meeting.

The official statement announcing the results of the deliberations reads: "The ninth meeting of the Commission of International Labor Legislation was held at the Ministry of Labor under the presidency of Sir Gompers at 2:30 P.M. Monday, February 17.

"The discussion of the procedure laid down in the British scheme for the meetings of the annual conference was continued. The commission agreed to the British proposal, as amended in accordance with a proposal of the Belgian delegation, which provided that at the annual labor conference the Government of each state shall be represented by two delegates having one vote each, while there will be one delegate from each of the great labor organizations, and having one vote, and one delegate representing work people also having one vote."

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